

U. S. Department of Agriculture
Bureau of Agricultural Economics
and
U. S. Department of Commerce
Weather Bureau

Nebr. Dept. of Agr. & Inspection
Division of Agr'l. Statistics
and
Agricultural Extension Service
Of Nebr. College of Agr.

NEBRASKA WEEKLY WEATHER AND CROP REPORT

Released 4-15-52 - 11:00 A.M.

Week Ending 4-14-52

WEATHER The week was cold, cloudy and windy with heavy precipitation over the southeastern third of the state, diminishing to none in the northwestern corner. Most of the precipitation fell as snow over the central and northeastern portions and some in the southeast.

CROPS Comments on Nebraska's wheat crop continue highly favorable. One western county reported some damage from wind and the outcome of the wheat in the flooded areas remains to be seen but not hopeless yet. The seeded acreage is the third largest of record with very little abandonment indicated up to April 1. The April 1 condition was the highest of record and if maintained until harvest the crop should approximate one hundred million bushels.

A little over half of the oats had been seeded by Saturday, and with the three days favorable for seeding following last Saturday, probably three-fourths of the oats were planted prior to the rain Tuesday night. The rain during the past week up to Tuesday night was not sufficient to interfere seriously with seeding of oats in the western two-thirds of the state and rain was light in the northwestern portion of northeastern Nebraska.

The percentage of seeding by districts completed up to Saturday morning are as follows: Northwest, 32%; North-Central, 30%; Northeast, 45%; Central, 31%; East-Central, 54%; Southwest, 57%; South-Central, 70%; Southeast, 86%. In some of the areas, chiefly in east-central and the southeastern part of northeastern Nebraska, the soil is so thoroughly saturated that the intended seeding may not be reached. Elsewhere it appears so far that the seeding of oats may not fall much below the intended acreage.

There was considerable disking of land for corn last week. There is some indication at least that farmers will prepare their ground and plant earlier than last year if rains do not interfere. A few counties reported husking a little corn last week. With a month's time for the soil to dry out in the flooded bottom lands, the soil should be in shape for planting corn if weather is favorable for drying.

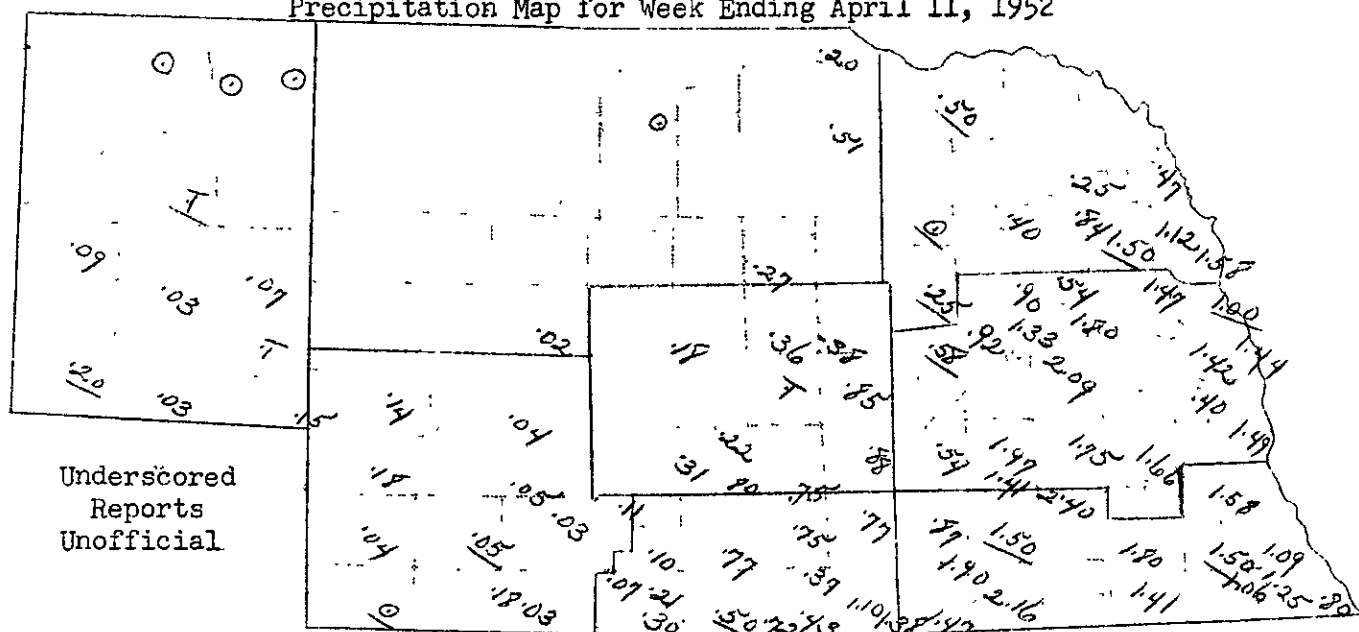
Stocks of corn in Nebraska are down 32% from a year ago and down 43% from the 10-year average. Stocks of oats are slightly higher than last year and slightly above the average, while barley stocks are about one-third of the average and 15% below the 10-year average. In view of the high level of cattle production, more corn is needed and an increased acreage is requested. While an increase in production of corn can be obtained through a better tillage and application of fertilizer, an increase in corn acreage is highly desirable in view of the low stocks and the high level of livestock production.

The U. S. stocks of corn are 19% below a year ago and 16% below the 10-year average. Oat stocks are 5% below a year ago but 8% above the average. Barley stocks are 12% below a year ago and 3% below the average. Soybean stocks are 24% above a year ago and 54% above the average.

The outlook for alfalfa, wild hay and pasture is excellent with the splendid moisture supply. Only warm weather is needed now to bring these crops out at a rapid pace.

"The shortage of farm workers exists in practically all categories," says the Nebraska State Employment Service. Wet weather since the first of March, particularly in the eastern third of the state, is increasing the demand for farm workers. Farmers are eager to get their fields in shape for planting as early as possible to avoid the sad experience of late planting last year. "Experienced ranch hands are particularly needed in the ranch areas."

Precipitation Map for Week Ending April 11, 1952



HIGHEST AND LOWEST TEMPERATURES (for 24 hours ending in a.m.)

		April 8th		9th		10th		11th		12th		13th		14th	
		Max	Min	Max	Min	Max	Min	Max	Min	Max	Min	Max	Min	Max	Min
NW	Chadron	82	38	58	20	43	28	57	34	54	27	57	39	56	21
	Scottsbluff	82	39	56	21	42	24	52	28	46	29	58	28	54	26
	Sidney	79	44	55	22	41	18	48	27	54	32	54	32	52	21
N-C	Burwell	--	--	--	--	38	14	45	29	42	32	35	33	51	26
	Valentine	84	38	39	24	38	16	50	31	49	32	40	33	50	23
NE	Norfolk	73	44	62	30	33	18	41	28	37	32	36	33	53	31
	Sioux City	71	42	70	30	35	23	42	30	40	32	38	32	53	32
CEN.	Grand Island	74	49	62	30	33	15	41	31	40	32	36	33	51	32
	Lexington	84	42	58	28	38	15	45	30	43	32	38	33	52	24
E-C	Lincoln	74	51	82	32	36	20	39	32	45	35	38	34	52	34
	Omaha	71	52	83	33	37	26	38	31	45	34	39	34	49	36
SW	Imperial	85	42	58	27	41	16	48	27	49	31	40	26	55	22
	North Platte	84	45	58	28	41	15	47	30	44	33	39	34	53	24

WEATHER BUREAU TELEGRAPHIC REPORT OF PRECIPITATION FOR WEEK ENDING APRIL 14, 1952

Eastern Division		Eastern Div., Cont'd.		Central Division		Western Division	
Albion	--	Hastings	.77	Broken Bow	.18	Alliance	0
Ashland	2.00	Lincoln	1.81	Burwell	.27	Chadron	0
Auburn	1.09	Norfolk	.59	Cambridge	.07	Culbertson	.18
Beatrice	1.65	Oakdale	--	Holdrege	.29	Imperial	.02
Columbus	1.33	Omaha	1.68	Lexington	.31	Kimball	--
Fairbury	1.85	Red Cloud	1.10	North Loup	.38	Scottsbluff	.09
Fairmont	1.97	St. Paul	.85	North Platte	.09	Sidney	.03
Falls City	1.24	Tekamah	1.58	O'Neill	.51		
Fremont	--	Wakefield	.10	Ravenna	--		
Grand Island	1.14	York	2.64	Valentine	.09		
Hartington	--						